the sea-coast. One or two deep bore-wells will be tried at an early date with the aid of the boring instrument purchased for the Department of Industries.

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): Has the instrument been purchased?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): Yes, it has been.

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): Where is it now being applied?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): It is working in the Velimala Hills. The Director of Industries told us so in the Council yesterday.

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): When can the Karunagapalli people expect it in their own parts ?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): The Chief Engineer is expected to take it over there by the beginning of next year.

The proposed Ranni Extension Reserve.

125. MR. T. J. MATTHEW (*Changanachery* cum *Peermade*):

(*a*) With reference to Notification R. Dis. 892/251 Development, dated the 4th May 1925, proposing to constitute 2,400 acres of land in Survey No. 780/1 of the Ranni *pakuthi* as a reserve, will the Government be pleased to state :

(i) whether any and what portion of the proposed reserve is jungle land now ;

(ii) the number of buildings and cottages that have been put up by occupants within the block during the last seven years and the number of persons who are living within the area ;

(iii) whether the major portion of the block is not completely cleared up and mostly planted with rubber, cocoanut and pepper and does not contain other permanent improvements;

(iv) whether the proposed reserve is not bounded on three sides by registered holdings in the occupation of tenants ;

(v) whether the Nurvakad temple is not situated in the midst of the area ;

(vi) whether the occupants of the proposed reserve are not poor men depending for their sustenance upon the produce of their cultivation within the area ; and

(vii) whether the Government propose to eject these occupants ?

(*b*) Is there any considerable area of unregistered land available for registry in the *pakuthies* adjoining the proposed reserve, *viz.*, Kanjirapalli, Manimala and Ranni?

(*c*) Are not the people of the above *pakuthies* experiencing hardships for want of sufficient lands for cultivation ?

(*d*) Is there not a civil case pending against the Sirkar in the District Court of Quilon with regard to the title of the proposed Ranni Extension Reserve?

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MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) (i) The major portion, *i. e.*, about 2,000 acres, is jungle land.

(ii) No permanent buildings have been put up, but in a portion of the area falling in the Kottayam Division, a few temporary huts are reported to be put up during the cultivation time, which are neglected after the season is over.

(iii) Only a very small portion of the block, falling in the Kottayam Division, has been unauthorisedly encroached upon and cleared for shifting cultivation and even here only small areas have been planted with rubber, cocoanut and other crops.

(iv) The proposed block is bounded on three sides by reserved forests and on one side by registered and unregistered lands.

(v) The Nurvakad temple is outside the proposed area.

(vi) The occupants are said to be the hirelings of rich men who have encroached on the land.

(vii) The Forest Settlement Officer, who will be appointed, will go into such matters and decide each case on its merits.

(*b*) Some land is available outside the proposed area for cultivation and for homesteads in the three *pakuthies*.

(*c*) Government are not aware.

(*d*) Government have no information.

MR. T. J. MATTHEW (*Changanachery* cum *Peermade*): With regard to answer to part (*a*) (i) of the question, will the Government be pleased to state whether there are any trees upon those 2,000 acres?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): In jungle lands, ordinarily there will be trees. I cannot say whether there are any trees there now or not.

MR. T. J. MATTHEW (*Changanachery* cum *Peermade*): What does he say with respect to the area encroached upon?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): It is not forest land. It has been cleared.

Appointments made by Mr. R. Dhanukoti Pillai, Conservator of Forests.

126. MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): Will the Government be pleased to place on the table a statement showing, caste by caste, the appointments made by the present Conservator of Forests since his assumption of charge of the Department?

MR. K. NARAYANAN PANDALAY (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): No new appointments have been made since the present Conservator of Forests assumed charge of the Department. The subordinates who were already in service and who were thrown out during the re-organisation of the department in 1098 are re-entertained in temporary vacancies in the order of seniority in service.

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